

## Certified Medication Aide Non-Injectable Medication Administration in Settings Outside of Long-Term Care

### Background

The certified medication aide (CMA) is an actively certified nursing assistant who has completed additional education in the administration of non-injectable medications through a Board-approved medication aide education program and who has passed a Board-administered CMA examination.

Historically, the CMA has been utilized to administer non-injectable medications to clients in long term care settings. This CMA authorized duty may only occur as assigned by a registered nurse (RN) and under the direct supervision of the RN or licensed practical nurse pursuant to OAR 851-063 Standards and Authorized Duties for the Certified Nursing Assistant and Certified Medication Aide.

Recently, nursing leaders and CMAs have asked whether this CMA authorized duty could be carried out in settings outside of long term care. The Board's response to this question is based upon interpretation of Chapter 678 Oregon Revised Statutes and Chapter 851 Oregon Administrative rules (OAR) that comprise Oregon's Nurse Practice Act (NPA).

### Board Statement

There is nothing in Oregon's NPA that sets practice setting limitations on where the CMA may administer non-injectable medications pursuant to OAR 851-063. It is therefore the opinion of the Board, that CMAs may administer non-injectable medications pursuant to OAR 851-063 in any setting where it is not prohibited by any other law or rule and is supported by the policies of the setting.

### References

Oregon Revised Statutes 678.150, 678.155, 678.440, 678.445 Professional Nurses.

[www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills\\_laws/ors/ors678.html](http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/ors/ors678.html)

Oregon Secretary of State. Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 851 Division 063. Standards and Authorized Duties for the Certified Nursing Assistant and Certified Medication Aide.

<https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/displayChapterRules.action?selectedChapter=16>

**Authority for Approval:** ORS 678

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*The Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) is authorized by Oregon Revised Statutes Chapter 678 to exercise general supervision over the practice of nursing in Oregon to include regulation of nursing licensure, education, and practice to assure that the citizens of Oregon receive safe nursing services. The OSBN further interprets statute and rule and issues opinions in the form of Policy and Interpretive Statements. These policies and interpretive statements are advisory in nature and issued as guidelines for safe nursing practice.*